(b) how far the strategy has been successful in generating additional employment both in Public and Private Stctors ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) The employment strategy in the Eighth Five Year Plan lays stress on development of agro-based and allied activities of non-agricultural, particularly manufacturing activities, in rural areas and the small and the decentralised manufacturing sector, expansion of programmes of construction of infrastructure and residential accommodation and promotion of the growth of the services and informal sector activities.

(b) The Eighth Plan envisages generation of 8 to 9 million additional employment opportunities per year on an average. During 1992-93, the first year of the Plan, additional employment generated was estimated to be of the order of 6 million compared to 3 million during 1991-92. Break-up of this estimate by public and private sectors is not available.

ILO Caution on Unemployment Policies

1947. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the I.L.O. has cautioned Government on the need to avoid policies which would create unemployment especially in the context of liberalisation ;

(b) If so, the details thereof ; and

(c) whether Government made any effort during the last two years to soften the exit policy which hurts workers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) There is no policy in the Government which can be termed as 'Exit Policy'. Therefore, the question of softening the stand on the exit policy does not arise.

1948. [*Transferred to 17th March 1994*]

Raising the Minimum Wages for Industrial Workers

1949. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to raise the minimum wages for industrial workers in the country following the recent hike in the prices of certain essential commodities ;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c) The Minimum wages fixed under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 for scheduled employments under central sphere have a component of variable Dearness Allowances (VDA), linked to consumer prices indices. The Variable Dearness Allowance is revised once in every six months based on the movement of the consumer price indices.

Organised Workers in Andhra Pradesh

1950. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the number of workers in the organised sector in Andhra Pradesh ;

(b) whether there has been a decline in the growth of the employment in the organised sector in Andhra Pradesh ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c) According to the Quick Estimates of Employment, 1992 based on the Employment Market Information Programme, the total number of workers in the organised sector as on 31-12-1992 in Andhra Pradesh was 18.36 lakhs. This was 3.7 percent higher over the total employment as on 31-12-1991.